

EXPRESS RATES MUST UNDERGO BIG REDUCTIONS

Interstate Commerce Commission Prescribes Drastic Reforms.

INQUIRY LASTED FOR THREE YEARS

Most Extensive Ever Prosecuted, and Business of Thirteen Companies Thoroughly Inquired Into—Lane Believes Conclusions Constitute Long Step Towards Solution of Grave Problem of American Householder, the High Cost of Living—System Expected to Open Up New Avenues of Trade.

Washington, July 14.—Sweeping reductions in express rates averaging, in general, approximately 10 per cent., drastic reforms in regulations and practices, and comprehensive changes in the methods of operation are prescribed in a report made public today by the Interstate Commerce Commission of its investigation into the business of the thirteen express companies of the United States.

Dealing with the identity of interest between the various companies, the report finds that while these companies are separate legal entities, "it is of interest to the public to know that they are stock owned and otherwise they are so interrelated, intertwined and interlocked that it is with difficulty we can trace any one of the greater companies as either wholly independent in its management or as a part of a single railroad system. So that while these companies operate separately and compete with each other for traffic, the express business may be said to be almost a family affair. An interesting revelation, too, in fact, might be drawn showing a common agency in all of the larger companies. And while many names may be used to designate these companies, it is within the family of the express business, the express business of the United States is managed by not more than three families of interests."

The inquiry was the most extensive, and, in wealth of detail, probably the most thorough, ever prosecuted by the commission. It was conducted under the able guidance of Commissioner Franklin K. Lane, it has been in progress for nearly three years. The report itself makes 500 printed pages. It involved an examination and comparison of practically more than 500,000 express bills in effect in this country, in addition to an examination of millions of way-bills and an investigation through the books of the companies of their financial operations and business methods. Commissioner Lane is of opinion that the conclusions reached constitute a long step towards the solution of that gravest problem of the American householder—the high cost of living.

The greatest reduction of rates proposed is on small packages—that is, on parcels which weigh less than twelve pounds. Rates on packages of more than twelve pounds were found to be more reasonable than those on smaller parcels.

Briefly stated, the new rates may be said to be based upon a minimum charge of 21 cents for a one-pound package. This charge increases in direct proportion to the weight and distance, at rates varying from one-tenth of a cent a pound to about 12 cents a pound. Twelve cents a pound, according to the conclusions of the commission, is approximately the highest rate that can be charged for the greatest distance possible for a parcel to be carried wholly within the United States, exclusive of Alaska.

Charges Proposed. Packages weighing two pounds, for instance, may be shipped 1,000 miles—New York to Chicago—for 24 cents; and 2,000 miles—New York City to Denver—for 31 cents, the present rates being respectively for each 35 cents. A three-pound package will cost 27 cents for 1,000 miles and 37 cents for 2,000 miles, the existing rates being, respectively, each 45 cents. A ten-pound package may be transported 1,000 miles for 42 cents and 2,000 miles for 77 cents, as against the existing rates of 75 cents and 125 cents, respectively. The cost of transporting a twenty-five pound package 1,000 miles will be 76 cents, against the present rate of \$1.10 and for 2,000 miles, \$1.64 against the present rate of \$2.25. Commissioner Lane believes that the method adopted for the computation and construction of express rates is scientific and will result in the execution of entirely reasonable charges. Through the decision announced today, express rates are made that are expected to open an avenue of trade between the producer of the commodities and the consumer by distributing equitably to the weight and distance the burden of the cost of transportation. At present that burden is borne chiefly by the parcels of light weight. By Commission Lane's decision, the small package will bear no greater share, per pound, of the cost of transportation than the heavy package, and every package weighing less than 100 pounds will bear the same amount of terminal expense.

The charges of the express companies, now in many instances, are the same for 50 pounds as for 100 pounds, between the same points; and in some instances they are as much for 30 pounds as for 100 pounds. Under such a system the householder is compelled to pay as much for a 10 pound package as a dealer would pay for a 25 pound package, and three or four times as much as the dealer would

PENSION OFFICE BUSY

Four Per Cent. of Applications for Increase Allowed.

Washington, July 4.—Four per cent. of the applications for increase in pension, as provided in the bill passed May 11, have been allowed. The Pension Office is grinding away steadily in an attempt to deal with the 425,000 applications on file. No such inundation of business has ever before struck the office, and it will require months to finally dispose of all the applications.

Many of the applicants have accompanied their applications with letters. These messages come in at the rate of 10,000 per day, and on account of the rush of business incident to caring for the applications alone no effort is made to answer these letters.

Many applicants, hearing nothing of their papers that they have sent to Washington, have become nervous and have sent in duplicate or even triplicate applications. This has added to the confusion and the mountain of work in the office.

Out of the 425,000 applications filed, 15,000 of which have been filed to date, there are about 500 applications from persons who never before were paid pensions. Almost the entire number are applications for increases under the bill which establishes a maximum of 21 per cent.

Pensions date from the day on which the application is filed. It is this circumstance which has caused the deluge.

Of the applications received so far, but about 1,000 come from Civil War veterans. The veterans of the two wars with England are dead. The veterans of the Mexican War are thinned out.

The new pension act provides \$150,000,000 for pensions this year. The act will require a larger appropriation next year, and thereafter the amount reaching its maximum, the amount decreasing thereafter year by year as the veterans pass away.

LAST DEBT PAID BY ASTOR

Will Help to Build Memorial to Heroes of the Titanic.

Washington, July 14.—The last debt paid by Colonel John Jacob Astor, a victim of the Titanic disaster, will help to build the great memorial in Washington to the men who died on the ill-fated liner.

Mrs. Archibald Forbes, a New York social leader, is the woman to whom the debt was paid. Her letter forwarded to Mrs. John Hays Hammond by Mrs. Thomas J. O'Brien, wife of the American ambassador at Rome, enclosed a dollar bill that was handed to her by Colonel Astor when the party of which he was a member settled in Rome for the last night of the voyage. The bill was placed in the social column before the Titanic sank off the New Foundland banks.

Mrs. Forbes said that when Colonel Astor handed over the dollar, the only money she ever won at cards, he made a jesting remark about the luck of beginners. Mrs. Forbes' luck held for a few hours later, when she was lifted into a lifeboat while Colonel Astor and the other men of the party paid the price of self-sacrificing bravery.

12,000 MAY STRIKE MONDAY

New Bedford Cotton Manufacturers' Strike Union Demand.

New Bedford, Mass., July 14.—The New Bedford Cotton Manufacturers' Association yesterday accepted the strike challenge of the Weavers' Union, demanding a return to the old mill system, the removal from the mills of notices concerning the adoption of a grading system in the cloth mills. The weavers have already voted to strike on Monday in case the notices are not withdrawn.

It is difficult to estimate the number of operatives who will be affected by the strike. It includes not only all of the mills are members of the Manufacturers' Association, others have already withdrawn the notices, and still others had not posted them. It is believed, however, that about 12,000 hands will fall to report for work on Monday.

The grading system fixes the different prices paid for weaving first and second quality cloth. The manufacturers claim that it benefits the good weaver and does not work any hardship on the poor weaver.

WOMAN DOCTOR A THIEF

Well Known Boston Physician Pleads Guilty in Court.

Boston, July 14.—Dr. M. Elizabeth Webb, of No. 4 Longwood Terrace, formerly a student at Boston College and a graduate of the Boston Medical School, now a well known Back Bay physician, pleaded guilty to a charge of shoplifting in the municipal court yesterday.

Dr. Webb, who has been a practicing physician for twenty-five years, was arrested by Inspector Reilly and accused of operating in two department stores in Washington Street.

In court Dr. Webb made no plea for herself. With bowed head she uttered the one word "guilty" in a low tone. She was fined \$20 and placed in charge of a probation officer until the fine was paid.

After her arrest Dr. Webb said she had a lucrative practice for years, but had been abroad, and, on returning, found most of her patients had become settled.

NATION MAY PAY TOLLS

Navigation Head Says Powers Can Solve Panama Question.

Washington, July 14.—Eugene T. Chalmers, Commissioner of Navigation of the Department of Commerce and Labor, believes that the powers can solve the Panama Canal toll question by appropriating money for the purchase of the canal from the United States to pay charges against the merchant vessels under their respective flags, although he points out that it is a matter for them to determine. The commissioner says: "If they do so they will be within their treaty rights, as they wish in ours to provide a permanent annual appropriation from the Treasury to pay the tolls on all American ships. He would otherwise be to assert that we have bound ourselves to do nothing to promote our own shipping in the full knowledge that foreign nations

THIRTEEN KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK

Fatal Collision on Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

BODIES OF DEAD ROBBED BY GHOULS

Fast Mail Running at Full Speed Crashes Into Rear of Overland Express, Telescoping Two of the Pullman Cars—Responsibility for Disaster Not Fixed.

Chicago, July 14.—Thirteen persons were killed and fifteen to twenty were injured in a wreck on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad at Western Springs, a suburb of Chicago, at 4:30 o'clock this morning.

Coming through a fog with supposedly clear track ahead, the train—No. 8, a fast mail—ran at full speed into the rear of train No. 4, known as the Overland Express, from Denver, which was standing still on the track telescoping two of the Overland Pullman cars.

Railroad officers refused to fix the high speed train, which had been investigated thoroughly by the F. A. Woods, who was in charge of the lower from which the block signals were controlled, said she was certain the block was thrown against both trains, and still in a nervous condition. The dead:

Francis A. Barlett, twenty years old, Illinois, Mont.

George Brownson, fifty-five years of age, Gatesburg, Ill., engineer train No. 8.

S. A. Houch, thirty years old, Chicago, negro porter on Pullman car, train No. 2.

Mrs. M. M. Post, wife of a physician at Canton, O.

Mrs. E. G. Hartmann, San Francisco.

M. E. Stein, forty years old, Chicago.

E. G. Tuber, forty years old, Lacey, Iowa.

Miss Lillian Kelly, aged twenty-two years, Boise, Idaho.

Two unidentified women.

Two unidentified girls.

One unidentified boy.

Lives Crushed Out.

All of the dead bodies were taken from the rear coach of the Denver train. The engine of No. 8 plunged through this car, halving it and crushing out the lives of helpless passengers. Many of the men were lying on their backs in the wreckage, their bodies crushed into the engine then sped. Half way through the car it veered to the left, derailling the sleeper. The engine was entirely stripped when it stopped.

Starting from the wreckage, the engine then broke out of the wreckage, plowing down by heavy timbers and iron, plowing for 400 feet. Members of the fire departments of Western Springs and La Grange were on the scene within a few minutes after the wreck occurred, and they put out the fire with lines of hose.

Ghouls are believed to have robbed the dead before they reached the morgue. In La Grange more than a dozen large diamond sets were taken from jewelry, and although most of the dead appeared to have been persons in comfortable circumstances, a dime was the largest sum of money found on any of the bodies.

Coroner Hoffman early in the afternoon ordered all of the bodies embalmed immediately, and empaneled a jury to investigate the wreck. In a little room above a business house in Western Springs, Mrs. Webb hid herself from visitors throughout the greater part of the day. The shades were drawn and she was trying to collect her thoughts. Finally she said:

"Discipline Responsibility."

"After I have decided that I was not in any way to blame for the accident, I know that the blocks were set against the train. It was not I that erred."

"The train instead of two passed the signals, in violation of all rules, although it might have been that the engineers did not see the board."

"First I heard No. 4, a train in no way connected with the wreck, pass. Then, a few minutes later, No. 8 came. I thought something was wrong, and I began to try to think of something to do to stop the train from running by the board. But before I could get my wits together, No. 8 had sped by. The crash followed."

Another way was suggested as to how the wreck may have occurred. It was that No. 2, having been blocked by a signal, had sent a brakeman to warn No. 8. No. 8 was coming down grade when the crash came. Persons said that No. 2 had been given a signal that the track was clear, and that the crew either had failed to hear the torpedoes or had believed they had a clear track.

Others said that torpedoes were set by brakemen of No. 2. The statement does not fix the blame for the collision.

RECEIPTS BREAK RECORD

Largest Three Months' Business in History of Service.

Washington, July 14.—The latest financial statement of Auditor Kram, of the Post-Office Department, shows the largest three months' business in the history of the postal service. Audited revenues for the quarter ending with March reached \$44,358,544.55, an increase of \$2,356,201.11 over the same period last year. Total expenses amounted to \$44,878,626.78, a daily average of \$152,652.06. Expenses exceeded revenues during the quarter, but a net profit of \$645,836.16 is shown for the first nine months of the fiscal year.

There was a marked falling off in the volume of money sent abroad during the nine months, while the number of domestic orders issued increased more than 5-1-2 per cent. Money sent out of the country through international money orders decreased \$10,483,531.30, compared with the same period last year. This change is attributed by the department to the establishment of the postal savings system.

WILL NOT DIVULGE HIS PREFERENCES

Wilson Declines to Discuss Message to National Committee.

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CLOSE FRIENDS

McCombs Regarded as His Choice for Chairman, McAdoo or O'Gorman for Vice-Chairman, and Joseph E. Davies for Secretary—Other Probable Suggestions.

Seagirt, N. J., July 11.—Information at Seagirt gathered from party leaders with whom Governor Wilson has been in constant consultation recently, are that William F. McCombs, of New York, is his choice for chairman of the Democratic National Committee; William M. McAdoo, of New Jersey, builder of the Hudson tunnels, or Senator James A. O'Gorman, of New York, for vice-chairman; and Joseph E. Davies, national committeeman from Wisconsin, for secretary. These views have been gleaned from a canvass of the Governor's closest political friends. As to the contents of the message which Robert S. Hudds, Governor Wilson's spokesman in connection with the national committee at Chicago for its action to-morrow, Governor Wilson has divulged no word. On the contrary he has consistently declined to speak for publication on that subject. His objection he bases on the fact that he is acting in conformity with the national committee in placing his preferences before it. To say what the message would contain in any particular, the Governor asserted, would be a distinct violation of that courtesy.

Nevertheless there is an unanimity of opinion among the national committee friends that the message will contain, in addition to the foregoing, other suggestions in substance, as follows:

Suggestion in Message.

That the national campaign headquarters be fixed at New York, with a branch at Chicago and another in a Western city, unnamed in the message.

That there will be no specific suggestion concerning the identity of the treasurer of the committee or the financial committee, except that Henry Morgenthau, of New York, is a place on the committee. Mr. Morgenthau contributed largely to the Wilson campaign fund for the anti-nomination fight, and the Governor's friends believe he will be given a prominent place on the committee if the Governor's suggestion is carried out.

That the campaign committee consist of men who have been associated with the Governor in his fight for the nomination and will include Robert S. Hudds, national committeeman from New Jersey; Eugene C. Bland, of Missouri; Senator O'Gorman, of New York; and Gore, of Oklahoma; Representative Mitchell Palmer, of Pennsylvania; William G. Bland, national committeeman from Delaware; William G. McAdoo and William F. McCombs.

There are three Texans upon one of whom the Governor's friends assert, representation on the campaign committee may fall. They are Representative Bland, of Texas, and Henry and Judge Cato Selie, of Texas. If the Governor's suggestion is carried out, they say that Senator Odiah Gardner, of Maine, may be given a place on the committee.

It is a part of the Governor's plans, in the opinion of his friends, to have the campaign headquarters at all the vital matters concerned with the campaign, and that the national chairman be guided by a majority vote of the campaign committee in which he will, of course, have a vote. Mr. McCombs, they say, would thus be placed in a position where he could not act alone, but only on the advice of seasoned political leaders.

McCombs as Director-in-Chief.

Governor Wilson's friends assert that his plans regarding Mr. McCombs are that he act as director-in-chief of the campaign committee. He will make his headquarters in New York, and will be the Governor's plan, according to his counselors, to request each national committeeman to direct, under Mr. McCombs, the campaign in his own State.

Not only matters, it is understood, are not yet settled, but the Governor's message to the national committee, but will be left to the campaign committee if Governor Wilson's wishes, as expressed to-night by his friends, are followed. "The information is that the Governor is inclined to favor Thomas J. Pence as head of the publicity bureau. Mr. Pence was head of the Wilson publicity bureau in Washington. He was born in North Carolina and is a well known newspaper man who has been in the Wilson publicity bureau since he was a boy.

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Deeds Fortune to Universities



JOHN ARMSTRONG CHALONER.

FELDER WILLING TO MEET BLEASE

Will Give South Carolina Governor Any Personal Satisfaction He Desires.

COMMITTEE IS CONDEMNED

Executive Intimates Duelling Law Will Have No Effect on Him.

Atlanta, Ga., July 14.—I am neither a bully nor a braggart, but I am willing to meet Blease anywhere outside the State of South Carolina and give him any personal satisfaction he desires. This statement was made today by Thomas B. Felder on his return to Atlanta after testifying before the special investigating committee of the South Carolina Legislature probing the old State dispensary case at Augusta. The statement was in answer to a declaration made yesterday at Bamberg, S. C., by Governor Cole L. Blease, in which he said: "I will give any man \$10,000 who will get Tom Felder two miles out of this State, the Savannah River and let me be present."

In the statement Governor Blease also exhorted the members of the investigating committee in bitter terms adding: "It is against the law to send challenges in South Carolina, but if any member of that committee will come to me and tell me that he believes what Tom Felder said, you won't need any duelling law, and Charlie Smith will be your Governor."

Continuing, the Governor referred to the lynching of three negroes recently in Olat, S. C., and is quoted as follows: "You did like men and defending your neighbors and put their black bodies under the ground."

On his return to Atlanta to-day Mr. Felder was accompanied by E. S. Reed, the detective whose evidence secured last year before the grand jury, created a sensation at the Augusta hearing.

Mr. Felder stated that he would press even graver charges against Governor Blease when his term as Governor of South Carolina expired.

NO WORD FROM MITCHELL

Bench Warant for His Arrest Likely Unless He Is Heard From.

Washington, July 14.—Unless John Mitchell, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, recently adjudged guilty of contempt with President Gompers and Secretary Morrison, appears before Justice Wright in the District Supreme Court to-morrow for sentence or files a written agreement waiving any rights he has in the matter a bench warrant for his arrest will be issued.

There was some doubt about the right of the court to sentence Mitchell when the latter was not present, and Justice Wright deferred sentence until to-morrow. It is expected the labor leader will either agree to sentence in his absence or will be present.

"The court does not propose to take any chance of having the defendant declare he was not given an opportunity to be heard before sentence was passed," stated Justice Wright when the case was continued recently.

Mitchell has been on a lecture tour through the West, and was not in court when the sentence of twelve months and six months in jail respectively were imposed on Gompers and Morrison. Attorney J. H. Ralston informed the court that no doubt Mr. Mitchell would not raise any legal objection to being sentenced in his absence.

ELECTIONS IN PANAMA

Results Indicate Certain Victory of Dr. Porras for Presidency.

Panama, July 14.—The presidential elections which were held to-day throughout the republic were conducted in an orderly manner. All the electors belong to the Porras party, which insures the unanimous election of Dr. Belisario Porras on August 20 next, when the electoral assemblies convene. Pedro Diaz, candidate of President Arosemena's government, convinced of the impossibility of election, withdrew at the last moment.

Quiet Day in Colon

Colon, July 14.—Eighty-three votes supporting Belisario Porras for president for the coming term were cast here to-day. Pedro Diaz, the government candidate, having withdrawn. The election passed quietly. Zene police and United States marines guarded the polling stations.

A. E. MOYNELO DROPS DEAD

Formerly Identified With Cuban Struggle for Independence.

Savannah, Ga., July 14.—A. E. Moynele, formerly prominently identified with the Cuban struggle for independence and latterly Cuban consul at Savannah, dropped dead at his home to-night. He was about sixty years of age, married, the father of two children and wealthy. At one time, the story is told, Moynele was so hotly pressed by his Spanish enemies in Cuba that he was nailed in a barrel by his friends and shipped out of the island to the United States in that way. He had been consul here for several years.

Generally Fair Weather

Washington, July 14.—Warm and generally fair weather will continue this week, says a Weather Bureau bulletin, in the Gulf States and the Southwest, while in the South Atlantic States local thunder showers during the first half of the week will be followed by generally fair weather toward the close.

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CHALONER GIVES WHOLE FORTUNE FOR EDUCATION

Universities of Virginia and North Carolina Residuary Legatees.

ESTATE IS WORTH \$1,500,000.00

John Armstrong Chaloner, Whose Family Had Him Confined in an Asylum, Blocks Plan of His Brothers and Sisters, Who He Charges Are Endeavoring to Secure His Property—Makes Bequests of \$10,000 Each to Nine Colleges and Endows Christmas Tree for Children of Roanoke Rapids.

Fearing that relatives may attempt to contest his will on the ground of alleged insanity, and so defeat his liberal plans for aid to Southern Education, John Armstrong Chaloner has conveyed his property, amounting approximately to \$1,500,000, in trust to the Virginia Trust Company, of Richmond, naming the University of Virginia and the University of North Carolina as residuary legatees. Special bequests of \$10,000 each are made to nine other educational institutions. Mr. Chaloner reserves the control of the property during his life time, and the right to revoke the stock, but agrees not to encumber any of the real estate or to hypothecate any of the securities, except for the permanent improvement of the property, and then only with the consent of the two universities, which will fall heir to the major portion of his estate.

Long Legal Battle.

For years the fight to control the property of Mr. Chaloner, heir to a portion of the immense Astor fortune, has been one of the most spectacular legal battles in this country. It has been of unbounded mind on evidence of his relatives, he was for a time confined in a Bloomingdale Asylum, New York, from which he escaped to his family abode, the Merry Mills, in Albemarle county, Virginia, where he has since lived. Virginia and North Carolina courts have declared him sane and competent to manage his property. Alleging conspiracy on the part of his family to prevent his possession of his property, by having him committed to an insane asylum, Mr. Chaloner has discarded his relations, even changing his name from Chalner to Chaloner. By advice of counsel, he is now making his will by deed, retaining only the life interest in his properties, and transferring the whole in trust for the aid of education, mainly in the South. The indenture indicating the purpose of Mr. Chaloner has been filed with the clerk of the Superior Court of Albemarle county, North Carolina, and has been accepted by the corporate authorities of the University of Virginia and University of North Carolina, the residuary legatees. Each of these institutions will receive a portion of the estate, which will be the legal heir, believed to be inevitable, come into more than \$500,000 of his estate.

Has Made His Will.

The indenture filed by Mr. Chaloner transferring his property in trust to the Virginia Trust Company of Richmond, recites at some length that he has made his last will and testament dated May 10, 1912, making the University of Virginia and the University of North Carolina his residuary legatees, and that there is every danger of his being attacked by his next of kin, in view of their claim that as an insane and incompetent person that he has been incompetent to make a will since March 27, 1897, notwithstanding a decree of the County Court of Albemarle county, Virginia, on November 6, 1901, finding him sane and competent, and his having lived since within the jurisdiction of that court during the time the decree has not been reversed, set aside or altered; and that the next of kin declaring themselves to be the heirs at law and inheritors of his entire estate, brought proceedings in New York to set aside the indenture, and he declared a lunatic and incompetent person, by virtue of which T. T. Sherman was appointed by the Supreme Court of New York "the falsely alleged committee of the person and estate of the said John Armstrong Chaloner."

Deeds Property in Trust.

After reciting a history of the various litigations in the courts of New York, with the assertion that the action of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, renders it uncertain when, if ever, the grantor can obtain justice at the hands of that court, the indenture continues: "Therefore, said grantor has taken the following means of meeting the undesirable condition which confronts him, and as he did some years ago, in deeding his four hundred acre plantation known as The Merry Mills aforesaid, to the said Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, with certain restrictions, among others that if retaining full control thereof and a life interest therein, said grantor now puts the provisions of his last will and testament in operation during his life, by hereby deeding the following parcels of real estate and the following securities of the said Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia and the University of North Carolina, to-wit:

List of Property Transferred.

(1) 356 shares of the preferred capital stock of the United Industrial Company, grounds and factory at Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, of the par value of \$100 each and 230 shares of the common capital stock of said company of the par value of \$100 standing in the name of the grantor.

(2) 250 shares of the capital stock of the Roanoke Rapids Power Company of the par value of \$10 each (for-

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